

August 29, 2003

Congressman Ken Calvert Chairman, Subcommittee on Water and Power House Committee on Resources 1522 Longworth Building Washington D.C. 20515

Re: Amendments to H.R. 2828

Congressman Ken Calvert,

Thank you for including a \$300 million placeholder for the Salton Sea in H.R. 2828. As you know, the Salton Sea is a critical environmental resource that also has incredible recreational and economic development potential.

We support your efforts to authorize a Salton Sea project. We encourage you to amend your bill to support the Salton Sea Authority's and others efforts to restore the Sea. Specifically, we suggest that you amend the bill to:

- Include findings in the bill that stress the importance of the Sea.
- Require the Secretary of Interior to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the State and Salton Sea Authority within 90 days of enactment pursuant to the 1998 Salton Sea Reclamation Act (that Act's MOU requirement was not satisfied, and in our opinion, the requirements for developing a restoration plan were also not satisfied).
- Authorize appropriations for the preferred project identified by the Secretary, State, and Salton Sea Authority, and, if no preferred project is identified by the Secretary, authorize appropriations for a preferred project identified by the Salton Sea Authority and/or State under state law.
- Establish a Salton Sea Fund administered by the Salton Sea Authority to reduce overhead charges, diversions of funding to other projects and to encourage maximum use of private companies, universities, and others.

Please have your Subcommittee staff contact Tom Kirk if you have any questions about these suggestions or need further details.

Supervisor

Again, thank you for your continued support of Salton Sea restoration.

Sincerely,

Director Andy Horne

President

cc:

Senator Dianne Feinstein

Senator Barbara Boxer

Congresswoman Mary Bono

Congressman Bob Filner

Congressman Duncan Hunter

Congressman Jerry Lewis